Jan 15, 1922

In Ben Hur galley slaves at the little village. A workman gives Ben Hur a cup of water with such sympathy that Ben Hur never forgot him. An outbreathing of a beautiful spirit- Jesus ministering in loving service. To live with God and be like Him- this is the charm and beauty and dignity of life.

Jesus was asked many questions, but often evaded answering them. Why? Example. His disciples asked,"Lord, are there few that be saved?" The Master replied,"Strive to enter in by the narrow gate." This not an answer direct, but contained the substance of an answer far more effedtive than a direct answr could have been. Had Jesus answered,"The saved are few.", the disciples would have been discouraged. Had he said," There will be many saved." the disciples might have grown careless and missed their opportunities. But by making the number of saved depend upon the earnest endeavor of the disciples Jesus arouses in the them a right attitude and spirit.

Had the theologians paid heed to Jesus' answer they would never have concluded that the number of saved is fixed by God. Whosoever will may come, but many will not come unless we invite them and demonstrate to them that God's ways are best and give us the most satisfaction and happiness in life.

Take the case of the young lawyer who asked Jesus, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the law?" "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, etc." "This do and thou shalt live." It should have satisfied the lawyer, but like many today the lawyer was more eager to propound qiestions than to solve his problems, more eager to talk about them than to act upon them. And so he asks another question, "And who is my neighbor?"

No use answering a man like that and so Jesus tells him a story, in which is pictured eight distinct elements, like the colors of the prism, compose the white light of neighborliness

I. SYMPATHY. When the Samaritan saw him he was moved with compassion.

What is sympathy? it is thinking
More of others than yourself,
Counting hearts of fellow mortals
Of more worth than paltry self,
Acting for your comrad's pleasure,
Giving without stint or art;
It is blessing every creature
With your hand and voice and heart.

I have been asked the question, How can we be happy in heaven if we know that some of our loved ones and friends are lost?" Well, how does that knowledge affect us here? Many of us know that we have loved ones and friends who are out of Christ and yet we eat and sleep reasonably well and do not seem to grieve very much over their lost condition. Some of our friends will probably nevr be any more lost than they are now.

4. The story of the unhappu young prince who had everything notwithstanding. The magician who appeared before the King. "Do a kindness to someone every day."

II. Approach. "And came to him".

"Somebody did a golden deed;
Somebody proved a friend in need;
Somebody sang a beautiful song;
Somebody smiled the whole day long;
Somebody thought, " 'Tis sweet to live."
Somebody said, "I'm glad to give;"
Somebody fought a valiant fight;
Somebody lived to shield the right;
Was that somebody YOU?

Once when Gladstone was facing a great crisis in his politi cal life he was writing his speech at 2 in the morning when there came to his door the mother of a poor cripple dying boy and begged him to give the boy some comforting message. Gladstone went spent all night with the boy, led him to accept Jesus Christ and closed his eyes after death. To a friend that day Gladstone

said, "I am the happiest man in the world today." And he carried the House of Commons to a triumphal success with one of his most masterly speeches, even tho it he had not finishee writing it.

III. CONTACT. "And bound up his wounds."

How indignant we are at the priest and levite who passed by on the other side. But stop a moment and let us look into the mirror of this parable. As we came to church this morning how many did we pass by of our acquaintances without asking themto come to church? How many loved ones have we to whom we have never spoken about the salvation of their souls?

A Christian cowboy out in the once wild and wooly west tried to define "Serving the Lord". He did it as follows. results: "Lots of folks that would really like to do right, think that serving the Lord means shouting themselves hoarse praising His name. Now I will tell you how I look at that. I'm working here for Jim. Now, if I would sit around the house telling what a good fellow Jim is, and singing songs to him, I'd be doing just like lots of Christians are doing; but I wouldn't suit Jim, and I'd get fired mighty quick. But when I buckle on my straps and hustle among the hills and see that Jim's herd is all right, not suffering for water or feed, or being off the range and being branded by cattle thieves, then I'm serving Jim as he wants to be served." It must be admitted that he seems to have goten near the root of the matter.

IV. POURING IN OIL AND WINE. MINISTRATION.

The embarrassdd mother with two crying babies on a pullman car. A venerable old gentleman put each child to sleep. He was the senior bishop of the Episcopal Church. "I am among you as one who serveth."

V. SELF-SACRIFIDE. "And set him on his own beast".

The French soldier at Metz brot into hospital with badly shattered hand. Anesthetic almost given out. Surgeon explained the shortage. The soddier then ordered,"Keep it for the other fellows. Stuffing a cravat into his mouth he held out his hand and went thru the operation. Afterwards the surgeon asked him if it hurt, he replied, Oh, yes; but we fellows must sacrifice for one another."

VI. HOSPITALITY. "Brot him to an inn" This was equivalent to his own roof. Years ago a city situated in an arid country was supplied with water from a lake up in the mountain. In the

7. of one hot summer the water gave out suddenly. At once it was reported that the lake had gone dry. A young man climbed the mt to the lake and found it to be overflowing with water. Following the pipe he discovered a log lodged in it which stopt the flow of water. In just the same way inhospitality stops the flow of happiness into humanity the world over.

VIII. CARE. "And took care of him" It is not by doctrines that the Roman Catholics have gained such strength, but by their hospitals, homes and numerous benevolent institutions. It is not by doctrines that the Episcopalians have gained denominational supremacy in New York city, but by the many ministries of their institutions of service. Abstract doctines of Jesus Chriist will never cinquer the world. Only as we put Christ in action thru loving deeds of service will we ever take the world for Christ.

We must begin to look upon our fellow men, not as outside of our social set, not as three not belonging to our particular party or lodge or church, not as foreigners, but as if we saw them stretching out their hands from a burning building.

VIII. Provision. "And on the morrow... he took out two pence and gave them to the host, and said unto him, 'Take care of him, and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again I will repay thee."

The university student out walking with one of the professors A coat and shoes hanging on the fence.."Let us hide them and watch the perplexity of the owner."

Conclusion. Jesus defines neihgborhood as a spirit, we as an area. An opportunity to meet human need, we a limit of our responsibility.

Our neighborliness the extent of God's kingdom for us.

Hans Wagner, Pittsburg's popular ball player, once offered $1000 to consent to the use of his picture on cigarette boxes. Wagner refused. Representative said,"I thot all you ball players were money crazy." Wagner replied indignantly,"I am not crazy for any money that encourages boys to smke cigarettes. ."

Wagner a real neighbor to boys.

We must have wide horizons. Great souled men and women have eyes that see around the world.

You gave on the way a pleasant smile
And thought no more about it;
It cheered a life that was sad the while,
That might have been wrecked without it.
And so for the smile and fruitage fair
You'll real a crown sometime—somewhere.

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You spoke one day a cheering word
And passed to other duties;
It warmed a heart, new promises stirred,
And painted a life with beauties.
And so for the word and its silent prayer
You'll reap a crown sometime—somewhere.

You lent a hand to a fallen one,
A life in kindness given;
It saved a soul when help was none
And won a heart for Heaven.
And so for the help you proffered there
You'll reap joy sometime—somewhere.